external financing to implement the project. Simultaneously, steps will have to be taken to create widespread awareness in regard to the adequacy of the rehabilitation package being made available.

(d) and (e) The implementation of the project would require eight years from the date of active start. As the implementation has not been actively commenced so far, its completion during the Eighth Plan is not possible.

Discussion on Malhotra Committee Report

175. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Malhotra Committee on Insurance Report was discussing with Chief Executives of the Insurance Industry unions/associations of LIC/GIC and its subsidiaries and consumer interest groups;

(b) what is in brief, categorywise, the opinion of each of the above categories; and

(c) what has Government decided to do on this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) The Malhotra Committee on Reforms in the Insurance Sector submitted its report to the Government on the 7th January, 1994 recommending various reforms required in the insurance sector. Their recommendations have been discussed with the managements and the unions of the insurance industry; consumer interest groups; Chambers of Commerce and Industry; and academics. These recommendations were also discussed in the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Finance. Broadly, in the discussions, the unions did not support the recommendations relating to private sector entry into the insurance industry, disinvestment by the Government in the existing insurance entities, and their restructuring. The Management of the insurance companies wanted to have a transition period of prepare for competition. The consumer interest groups, Chambers of Commerce and Industry and academics generally supported the Malhotra Committee recommendations. The suggestions made in these discussions will be kept in view by the Goverament while taking a final decision on the recommendations made by the Malhotra Committee.

Strike threat by Indian Commercial Pilots Association

176. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India is willing to negotiate with the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association of IAC if they withdraw the strike threat given by them;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to resolve their strike threat keeping in mind the inconveniences caused to the travelling public?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Air India does not deal with Indian Commercial Pilots' Association (ICPA) of Indian Airlines.

(c) Following discussions with the Indian Airlines Management and the Chief Labour Commissioner, the ICPA has agreed to keep in abeyance the directives issued by them to the Pilots. To deal with the strike threat, Indian Airlines Management has drawn up a contingency plan to operate as many services as possible.